

Education beyond boundaries



German students with their Indian counterparts

RAINA ASSAINAR

Terna Vidyalaya in Nerul has introduced Germany as a language in their syllabus to encourage children to take up this foreign language.

Last year 11 students and two teachers visited Germany as part of a student exchange programme. The team from Terna School stayed with German families and attended Bremen University for 15 days. Among these 11 students who visited Germany, six were from Terna Medical College and five from Terna School. This year, the topic for discussion was vaccination, so Medical students were also part of the exchange programme.

These students who visited Germany now have a very unique locket with them, which is nothing but their own DNA. The students were taught to extract DNA from their saliva and colour it with their favourite colour and enclose in a jelly like transparent substance which is now a locket. This was taught at Bremen University while attending a lecture on Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Students also got an opportunity to meet Nobel Prize winner Professor Zur Hausen who invented vaccination for Cervical Cancer. At Jacobs University the students performed practical of basics of microbiology. They also visited Bremen health office and attended a lecture on strategies in Germany for dealing with HIV/AIDS.

This visit not only boosted German language skills among students but also instilled confidence in them. German students along with two teachers are currently at Terna Vidyalaya. Their trip comprises lectures on immunology, visit to Rajbhavan and Lad museum

language and way of life. The programme is about helping one another in areas that are lacking," said principal Heena Sumani.

Tanay Parkar and Mokshada Sharma, two students who were a part of Germany visit, have now become very close to the parents of

Pics: Jagatdeep Singh



Grand welcome organised by the school

in Byculla, practical session on Tuberculosis, meeting with Mayor and Deputy Mayor, visit to sewerage plant of NMMC, visit to mangroves, Morbe Dam and Saguna baug in Neral. The team will also conduct a free vaccination camp for around 1,000 children. The initiative is arranged by Terna and Schulenzentrum Ruebekamp, Bremen in collaboration with German Charity For Child Welfare in India at Terna Hospital.

"This is not just a student's exchange programme, it is an attempt to understand each other's culture,

their host partners. They have returned with new experience knowledge and new relations. Ashok Aher, trustee of the college who had initiated the exchange programme plans to include at least two or three students from every department.

The German students who have come with their teachers Sandra Bosch and Joachin Stier will go back with lot of Indian memories that is not just academics but also the cultural aspect, as Terna has also planned a mehendi and cultural programme as part of their farewell.